

Message Text

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43

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 FDRE-00 EA-06 OPR-02 A-01

PER-01 H-02 SCA-01 AID-05 VO-03 SR-02 ORM-01 IGA-01

SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /069 W

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R 091519Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9558

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 1102

FOR AMBASSADOR L. DEAN BROWN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AMEG, SREF

SUBJECT: RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: A) STATE 97854; B) 107169

1. SHORTLY AFTER RECEIPT REFTEL (A), I DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH BALIMA, PRESIDENT LAMIZANA'S ECONOMIC ADVISER, BEST WAY TO PROCEED IN APPROACHING GOUV ON RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. HE EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION THAT UPPER VOLTA COULD ABSORB A SMALL NUMBER OF REFUGEES PARTICULARLY IN FIELDS OF MEDICINE, AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION AND ROAD ENGINEERING PROVIDED THEY WERE FRENCH SPEAKING. HE ADVISED, HOWEVER; AGAINST OFFICIAL DEMARCHE THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTER ZERBO WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS PRO-PRG VIEWS. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA, ON THE CONTRARY, HAS SPENT FOUR YEARS WITH FRENCH FORCES IN INDOCHINA AND STILL HAS FRIENDS AMONG OFFICERS OF RVN ARMED FORCES. BALIMA UNDERTOOK TO SOUND OUT PRESIDENT BUT, BECAUSE OF LAMIZANA'S CURRENT PREOCCUPATION WITH MALI-UPPER VOLTA BORDER DISPUTE, HE HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO

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DO SO.

2. I BELIEVE BALIMA'S ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT. HE WILL
ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT LAMIZANA ON STATE VISIT TO CANADA BE-
GINNING MAY 10 AND WILL HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS
THE MATTER WITH HIM. I BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO
WAIT A FEW DAYS RATHER THAN RISK NEGATIVE REPLY OR, AT BEST,
DILATORY TACTICS, FROM FOREIGN MINISTER ZERBO.
GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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